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"I Can Keep The Dream Alive"

The dream, which Dr. Martin Luther King Junior expressed, to his fellow man was truly a reiteration of the American Dream itself. It is a dream that we all can hope for-one of peace and prosperity, and we can help to make it happen. As the whole society, we can, as Dr. King did, help others to realize that the dream is still alive.

I believe that I myself have the ability to help others in society realize that dream in subtle ways. Firstly, kindness, love, and tolerance are great virtues in a man, but are seldom expressed today. I can assist in healing some of the wounds opened around me simply by being kind to people whom I am not even acquainted with, love the people who scorn me, and learn to tolerate the opinions and ambitions of others. In essence, I can learn to love others as equals to each other and to myself, a great hope of Dr. King.

Secondly, I can spread a message of hope by my words and actions. Dr. King did not stand before the crowds and scream hateful words and commit crimes against the people who were opposing and trying to oppress him. He said that he hoped that one day his children would live in harmony with the children of his adversaries. In the same way, I can show that this is truly possible. I can speak kindly on the street to those who have hurt me, or I can simply show hope for a change in their ways by refraining from hurting them back. I can talk to people instead of fighting with them for power and control. Alongside this, as an individual, I can live a peaceful or an ambitious, arrogant, or tumultuous one in which I abuse my own life by excessive greed or bottled-up hatred. Dr. King believed that all men were truly equal and could all live good lives side by side

(Brian A. Biery continued)

in harmony with each other as well as live justly when on their own. I can live a good life individually and in peace with others to show that the dream of a pure and harmonious society is not dead. Through the way I live my life and relate to others I can truly show the world that I believe in Dr. King's dream that all men can live peacefully as equals.

Thirdly, I can follow my faith and values. Dr. King was a good Christian man who believed in morality and love. All of the major religions teach these values, yet many of us do not follow along with these ideals. I can respect God and show reverence and respect to God and to others to show that Dr. King's dream of a society in which people are reverent and respectful to each other, as well as thankful and respectful to God, is also still alive. I need not be afraid to show that my God is loving and caring in society by showing that love and care to others, for this also would show society that I still believe in the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King.

In total, what I am really saying that I can do, and what we must all strive to do, is to talk the talk and walk the walk. We must respect our neighbors, our God, and ourselves. We can help others to grow and prosper as we do. I can do all of these things myself. I don't need anyone's help or approval, for Dr. King didn't always get great approval for everything he said and did either. Truly, by showing reverence and respect in a public way to me God, my neighbors, and myself, and by helping others to realize the fullness and kindness of life, I can show the world that the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King is still alive.